The Aluminum Situation

A Monthly Publication of
The Aluminum Association, Inc., 818 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20006

Economic Affairs Department 202-862-5100

January 1984 2/3/84

A0400-1

Total Net Shipments Up 14.5 Percent

Net shipments of aluminum ingot and mill products in 11 months of 1983, at an estimated 12,674 million pounds were 14.5% higher than shipments of 11,066 million pounds for 11 months of 1982.

Domestic shipments totalled 11,523 million pounds for 11 months of 1983, representing an increase of 16.9% from the 9,859 million pounds shipped in 11 months of 1982.

Exports of 1,151 million pounds were down 4.6% vs. 1,207 million pounds for 11 months of 1982.

Thru November 1983

	11 Mos. 1983	11 Mos. 1982	% Change
Mill Products	10,135	8,792	+15.3
Ingot	2,539	2,274	+11.7
Total	12,674	11,066	+14.5
Less Exports	(1,151)	(1,207)	− 4.6
Domestic Total	11,523	9,859	+16.9

Millions of Pounds
Source: Latest two months estimated by the Aluminum Association. Previous data—Bureau of the Census.

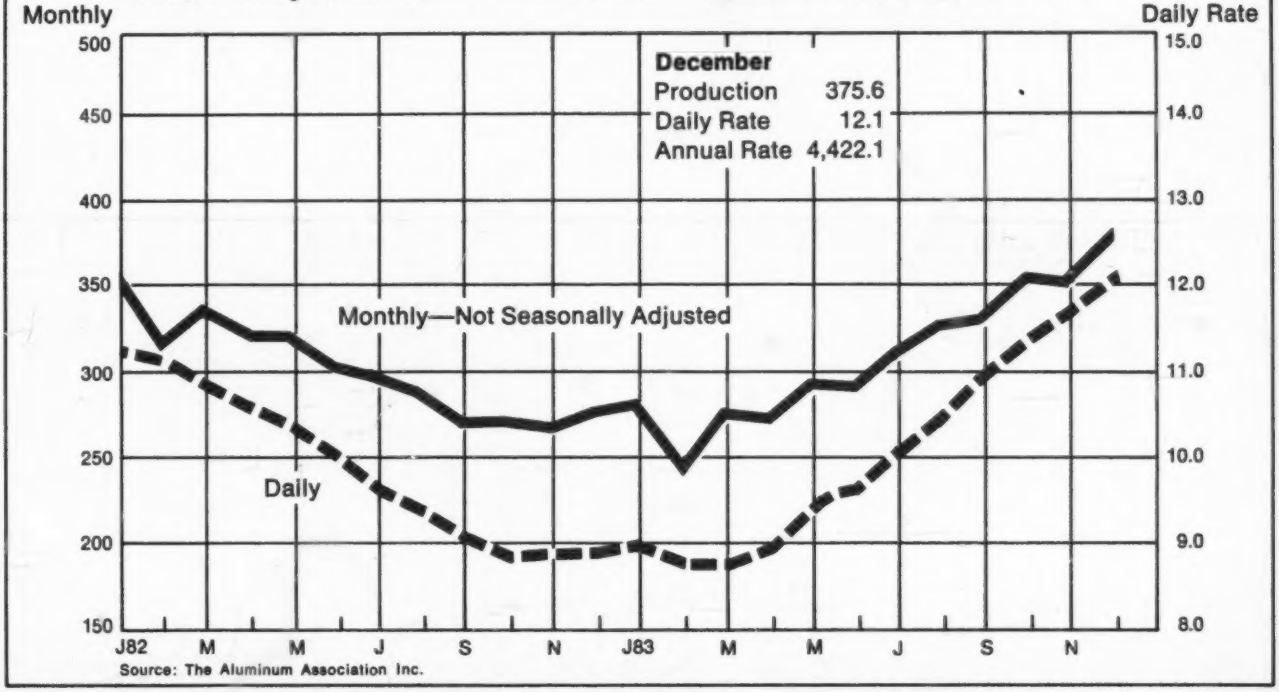
Primary Production Rate Up 36.5 Percent

U.S. primary aluminum production averaged 12,115 short tons daily during December 1983 compared with an average 8,875 tons a day in December 1982.

The annual rate of production in December 1983 was 4,422,081 tons, compared to 3,239,310 tons in December 1982. The November 1983 production rate was 4,257,664 tons.

Actual production in December 1983 was 375,574 tons. Preliminary 1983 year-end total production totalled 3,696,315 tons, 2.4% greater than the 1982 year total of 3,608,632 tons.

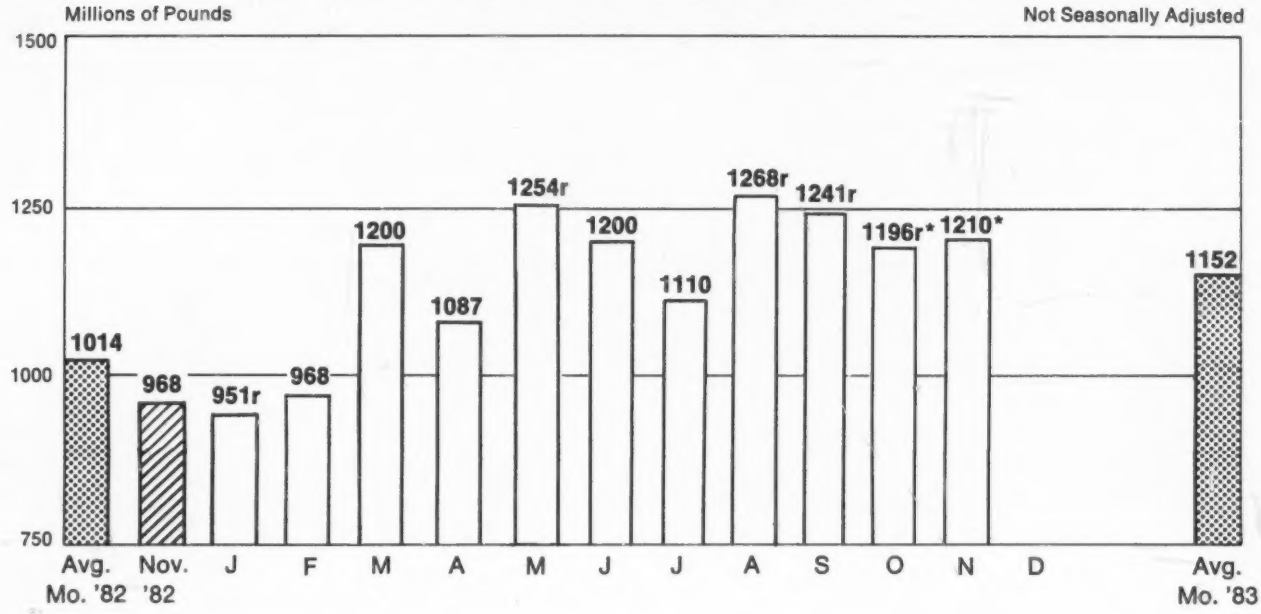
U.S. Primary Aluminum Production—Thousands of Short Tons



Source: The Aluminum Association Inc.

Aluminum Association total industry estimates are based on information reported by members, which is aggregated by the Association and then expanded to total industry data utilizing an expansion ratio that attempts to reflect the relationship of reporters to the total industry. While the Association believes that its statistical procedures and methods are reliable, it does not warrant the accuracy or completeness of the data. All data contained herein are subject to revision.

Total Aluminum Shipments



Net Shipments
(Millions of Pounds)

	1983 November*	1983 October*	1982 November	% Change Latest Month 1983 v. 1982
Sheet & Plate	518.0	506.0r	419.1	+23.6
Foil	68.0	71.0	61.2	+11.1
Rod, Bar & Wire	24.0	22.0	17.4	+37.9
Electrical Conductor	58.0	56.0r	42.9	+35.2
Extruded Products	186.0	200.0r	162.0	+14.8
Welded Tube	5.0	6.0	3.7	+35.1
Powder & Pigments	5.0	6.0	7.3	−31.5
Forgings & Impacts	11.0	11.0	8.3	+32.5
Net Imports of Mill Products (Total) (a)	42.0	50.0	33.4	+25.7
Total Mill Products	917.0	928.0r	755.3	+21.4
Ingot	293.0(b)	268.0(b)r	212.5	+37.9
TOTAL INDUSTRY SHIPMENTS	1,210.0	1,196.0r	967.8	+25.0
Exports	(150.1)	(96.6)	(119.5)	+25.6
TOTAL DOMESTIC SHIPMENTS	1,059.9	1,099.4r	848.3	+24.9

* Latest two months estimated by the Aluminum Association.
Previous data—Bureau of the Census and Department of Commerce.
(a) Not included in product data above.
(b) Sufficient data not available for reliable estimate. Implicit in this item is a 10 to 25% variation.
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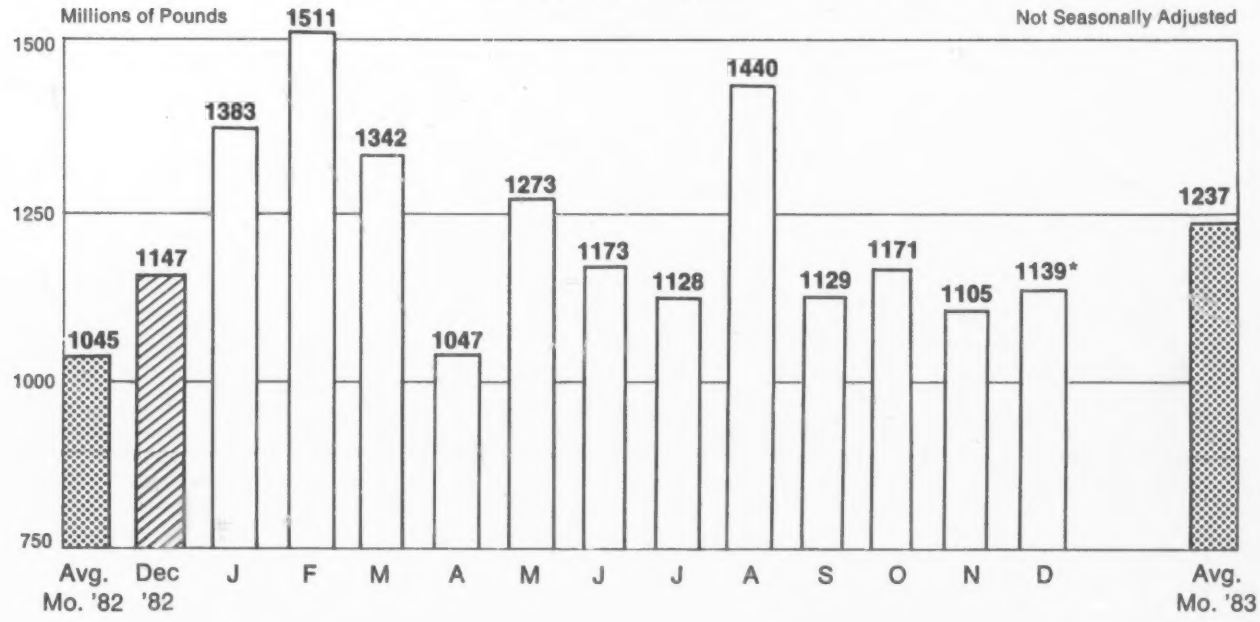
November 1983 Shipments Up 25.0 Percent vs. Year Ago

Total November 1983 net shipments of 1,210 million pounds were up an estimated 25.0% above November 1982 shipments of 968 million pounds. Domestic shipments were up an estimated 24.9%.

Order Receipts



Order Receipts
(Millions of Pounds)

	1983* December	1983 November	1982 December	% Change Latest Month 1983 vs. 1982
Can Stock (a)	256.5	226.4	236.7	+ 8.4
Sheet & Plate, Other	332.4	338.2	237.1	+40.2
Foil	70.3	86.6	60.9	+15.4
Rod, Bar & Wire	22.3	17.9	15.4	+44.8
Electrical Conductor	74.6	77.3	51.6	+44.6
Extruded Products	126.7	164.2	151.8	−16.5
Powder & Paste	10.0	5.3	6.9	+44.9
Forgings & Impacts	8.2	7.6	8.2	—
Domestic Mill Products	901.0	923.5	768.6	+17.2
Ingot (Total)	148.9	111.9	268.3	−44.5
TOTAL DOMESTIC	1,049.9	1,035.4	1,036.9	+ 1.3
Exports	89.1	69.9	110.2	−19.1
TOTAL ALL PRODUCTS	1,139.0	1,105.3	1,147.1	− 0.7

Source: The Association estimates total industry orders, based on weekly reports by members of new orders (less cancellations) received. The Association expands these data to total industry utilizing an expansion ratio that attempts to reflect the relationship of reporters to the total industry. Weekly data are available upon request.
(a) Import orders included in Sheet and Plate, Other.
* Latest month.
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December 1983 Orders About Same Level as December 1982

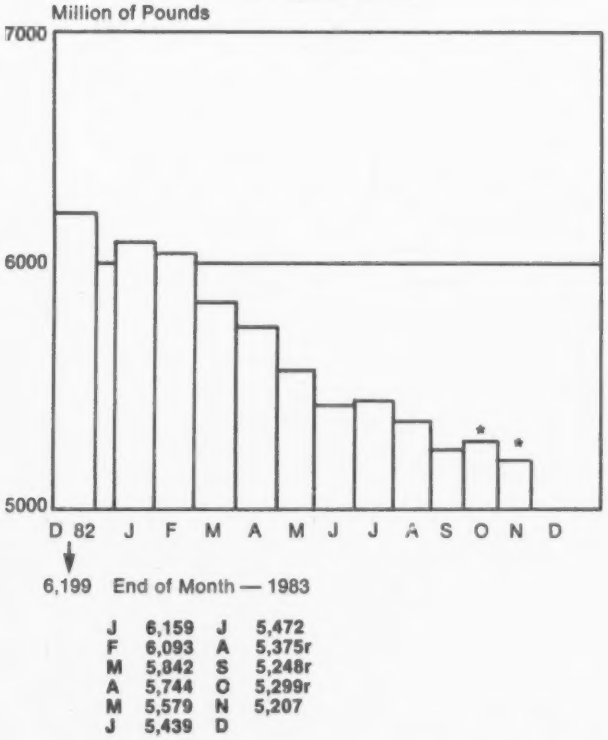
Estimated net new order receipts for December 1983 of 1,139 million pounds were only 0.7% below December 1982 orders of 1,147 million pounds. Domestic mill product orders were 17.0% above a year ago. Total orders for the year 1983 of 14,839 million pounds were 18.4% above the 1983 total of 12,535 million pounds.

Producers Stocks Down 92 Million Pounds

Producer inventories decreased an estimated 92 million pounds in November 1983 from an estimated 5,299 million pounds in October to an estimated 5,207 million pounds.

Integrated producer stocks dropped 97 million pounds. Nonintegrateds' stocks increased an estimated 5 million pounds.

Inventories



Producers Inventories
(Millions of Pounds)

Producers	Nov. '83	Oct. '83	Nov. '83 vs. Year End '82
Integrateds	4,145	4,242	−1,079
Smelters	202	202	− 14
Nonintegrated	860	855	+ 101
TOTAL	5,207	5,299	− 992

* Latest two months estimated by Aluminum Association. Previous data—Bureau of the Census. Inventories include ingot, mill products and scrap. Early estimates are available approximately the 5th working day each month; however, there is a charge for this special service. Contact the Aluminum Association Economic Affairs Dept. for details.

Imports and Exports
(Millions of Pounds)

		1983 November	1983 October	1982 November	% Change Latest Month 1983 v. 1982
Imports	Mill Products	52.9	65.2	38.6	+ 37.0
	Ingot	139.9	128.1	120.1	+ 16.5
	TOTAL	192.8	193.3	158.7	+ 21.5
	Scrap (+ dross)	24.8	24.5	16.8	+ 47.6
Exports	Mill Products	38.0	36.3	35.2	+ 8.0
	Ingot	112.1	60.3	84.3	+ 33.0
	TOTAL	150.1	96.6	119.5	+ 25.6
	Scrap	38.4	43.7	45.3	− 15.2
Net Imports		+29.1	+77.5	+10.7	+172.0

Source: Department of Commerce, Industry Trade Administration and Bureau of the Census. Excludes backed foil.

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